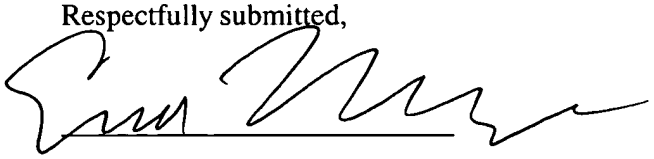
REMARKS

The applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his valuable time on the interview of July 21, 2003. As discussed during the interview, Workman et al. (US 2,132,840) does not disclose an iso-elastic vibration member with a substantially equal dynamic stiffness in the radial direction and in the axial direction, in that the unconstrained rounded rubber structure 18 provides highly non-linear stiffness in the axial direction as support member 12 is forced axially downward by an applied load. The axial direction dynamic stiffness of Workman will not be equal to its radial direction dynamic stiffness because of rubber structure 18.

As discussed during the interview, the combination of Nowak et al. (US 5,116,030) and Kubaugh (US 2,367,830) does not disclose an iso-elastic vibration isolator member consisting essentially of a single sole resilient member as claimed. The combination of Kubaugh with Nowak results in a vibration isolator with two resilient members, and teaches away from the present invention in that a first and second elastomeric section is utilized. The two elastomeric sections are required so that one "incurs compression" whereas the other "incurs tension" (Nowak, column 4, lines 51-54).

Respectfully submitted,



Edward F. Murphy III

Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 38,251
919-468-5979 ext. 6205
Lord Corporation
111 Lord Drive
Cary, North Carolina 27502